

TOWN DUMP

Half a mile east of Zebulon just to the south of the railroad tracks lies a town dump. It covers approximately three (3) acres in area and the operation is of the open dumping type. The refuse is bulldozed and burned as often as the situation warrents. The whole operation, although regarded as not being the most optimal type according to modern standards, appears to work satisfactorily. Few complaints, if any, have been thus far registered either about the collecting service or the smell, debris or vermin associated with the dump itself.

As the population continues to grow, the daily garbage yield will increase accordingly. Zebulon will soon find this method of open dumping both inadequate and inefficient. A better means of disposing the town's refuse should presently be considered. The North Carolina State Board of Health has recommended the method of sanitary landfill as the optimum way for communities with population under 100,000. The mode of its operation is briefly described as follows.

The refuse truck dumps its loads into freshly dug trenches in the town dump. At the end of a working day, a crew operated crawler tractor pushes the refuse into a trench and compacts it. Layers of earth are then used to cover the refuse and then be compacted in turn themselves, thus forming an effective seal between the buried garbage and the open air.

This landfill type of operation possesses several inherent advantages. First of all, the potential nuisances of smoke and odor are eliminated from the start. Properly operated and maintained, this site would not become a breeding ground for insects and vermin. Moreover, it constitutes much less of an eyesore and fire hazard than the open dumping type so that the surrounding land value, as well as the landscape,